

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 STATE 046281

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCSE-00 H-02 /013 R

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TO AMCONSUL CALI

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS STATE 046281

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:CASC CO (THOMAS, CRAIG)

SUBJECT: VISA ASSISTANCE FOR AMERICAN CITIZEN

1. OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN GRASSLEY HAS REQUESTED DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN ATTEMPTING TO RESOLVE COLOMBIAN VISA PROBLEM OF CRAIG THOMAS, AGE 16, OF CEDAR FALLS, IOWA. THOMAS, PARTICIPANT IN YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING PROGRAM, HAS BEEN STAYING WITH AYERBE FAMILY, CALLE 6, NO. 6-38, POPAYAN SINCE AUGUST 1975. (NO TELEPHONE NUMBER AVAILABLE.) THOMAS REPORTEDLY ENTERED COLOMBIA WITHOUT A VISA AND WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ALLOWED A 120-DAY STAY. SINCE EXPIRATION OF THIS PERIOD HE (OR HIS SPONSORING FAMILY IN COLOMBIA) HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN PAYING AUTHORITIES 50 PESOS PER DAY IN ORDER TO REMAIN IN COUNTRY. CONGRESSMAN'S OFFICE AND YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING ASK THAT, IF POSSIBLE, THOMAS BE GRANTED EXTENSION OF STAY UNTIL THIRD WEEK IN JULY TO ALLOW HIM TO COMPLETE HIS PROGRAM.

2. PLEASE ADVISE. KISSINGER

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